

# The Brethren Evangelist,

ASHLAND, OHIO.

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## Editorial.

It is estimated that getting born costs the people of the United States \$225,000,000 annually; getting married \$300,000,000; getting buried \$75,000,000. Total amount to be born, married and buried \$600,000,000. It looks like a large sum, but to "get drunk," costs the people of this country twice as much as to be born, married and buried.

We heartily recommend the method of work adopted by Brother Livengood. Scarcely a week passes but that some accessions are reported from his congregation. That means not good preaching only, but it means that his sermons are followed up during the week, and that his life preaches as forcibly as he preaches from the pulpit. Whenever and wherever a congregation adds to its number weekly, you may be assured that it is adding spiritual strength also.

### SENSATIONAL STORIES.

ABOUT two weeks ago, four overgrown boys wrecked a train on the New York Central Railroad with the intention of robbing the passengers. The engineer was killed but the young ruffians lost heart and ran away. This is but another of the many disastrous results and demoralizing effects of the reading of sensational stories. They were the victims of the abominable ideals of life presented in such stories. The press is largely responsible for such conduct. The alarming feature about the matter is that the reading of these sensational stories is not confined to those who are already ruffians, but like the drink habit, it begins with the respectable class and ends with the "toughs." Fathers and mothers are entirely too careless as to the reading matter they place in the hands of their children. What kind of books and papers are found on your parlor table, or in your boy's or girl's trunk? Is it the innocent novel? Right there is where the desire is created for such literature, and the

love for pure, elevating reading entirely destroyed. Stories of adventure, in which appear the most absurd exaggerations, excite the mind and inspire the heart to daring exploits, and worst of all, place a false ideal before the young people. Sensational stories open the way to the stage, to the penitentiary, the gallows, to a life of impurity and utter uselessness. Throw the trash in the fire. There are thousands of books and papers, the reading of which will be a lasting benefit to you, setting before you the true ideal of life, dealing with the solemn realities of this life, instead of the fanciful, and the vain imaginings and false ideals.

### OUR DISTRICT CONFERENCES.

The State and District Conferences of the Brethren church for the year 1895, are among the things of the past. We believe that these Conferences are productive of great good. Here is where work for the Master is planned and outlined; here is where Christian believers receive renewed strength, and under the inspiration which naturally comes from the association of God's children together, go out into the world with larger views greater love for lost souls, and more determined efforts to win the world to Christ. It is with pleasure that we note the tendency in the work of these Conferences to do less theorizing and more practical service. Those who read the proceedings of the Conferences of this year cannot but feel that they are taking a decidedly practical turn. If pastors and laymen who attended these meetings will make an earnest effort to carry out into active service the wishes of the various Conferences as expressed by them and put on record, we feel satisfied that the year 1896 will be a memorable year in the history of the Brethren church for great revivals in religion, for increased zeal, for growth in grace and numbers, for multiplied fruits of the spirit, and for general development along all the various lines of church work. Let us note some of the work outlined by our National Conference, to which the State Conferences, with few exceptions, have pledged their unanimous support.

### ASHLAND UNIVERSITY.

The National Conference has renewed its pledge to support the only College of the Brethren church, and with a view of a final liquidation of the College debt, has assessed each State Conference with

such amount as in the wisdom of the Conference seemed a fair apportionment. All the State Conferences held since the National, have cheerfully accepted their respective portion, and re-apportioned the same among the local congregations in their districts. This prompt action on the part of the State Conferences is highly commendable, and lends great encouragement to the friends of the University. There is no reason now why the entire indebtedness should not be raised before the meeting of the next National Conference. Suppose your apportionment is \$100. If you are unable to raise the entire amount, borrow it, and pay it back at the rate of \$20 or \$25 a year. We do not believe, however, that any one congregation is assessed above that which it can pay. Let there be one united effort to liquidate the debt.

### SISTER'S SOCIETY OF C. E.

The Sister's organization of the Brethren church, has received the hearty endorsement, and financial support of the National and State Conferences. The work is now moving grandly forward, and the prospects are that the Society, under the able and efficient management of its present officers will reach out farther than ever before, and the host of loving, devoted sisters will come up to our Conference next year with such results of their labors that will far transcend our fondest anticipations. The Sister's organization should have the unanimous support of all the churches in the brotherhood.

### THE PUBLISHING INTERESTS.

The National Conference has pledged its support to the publishing interests of the church, and while some of the State Conferences have said very little about it, yet we have reason to believe that at least, a majority of the membership is in hearty sympathy and co-operation with the Publishing House and all its interests. Sometimes it is to be feared that with the many organizations and institutions to support, the church is in danger of overlooking the importance of giving its unanimous support to the Publishing House. Of one thing, permit us to remind our readers. Among all the organizations and institutions of the church, none are of equal importance with the publishing interests of the church. We say it, not because we are intimately connected with it, but we say it, because we know it from observation and experience, that to-day the church could better afford to lose all,